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30th Jan. 1993
№138 60P

# THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry

Oh dear! Diesel has caused an accident!

9 770954 939046 04>

# NOTICEBOARD

Peep! Peep! Diesel is a very nasty and oily engine! Many times, the Fat Controller has to remind Diesel that he should always try to work more efficiently, and behave well at all times. In the story that begins on page 3, Diesel has been up to his old tricks again! Whatever will the Fat Controller think of Diesel now? Peep! Peep!

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!

Look out for some new fantastic **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** toys during 1993! *ERTL (UK) Ltd* will be issuing new models of **Harold the Helicopter**, **Percy** with **Freight Cars** as well as a **Thomas Activity Center**. We have featured *ERTL's* new **Thomas Pull-a-Long Wagon** with Number Blocks below (see pic).

## HOW TO OBTAIN YOUR FAT CONTROLLER'S CARD!

If you would like to receive your very own, splendid **Fat Controller's Card**, just send one **red**, **yellow** and **blue** token together with your details listed below (details need only be listed on any one of the 3 coloured tokens when applying for this offer) plus a stamped addressed envelope to: The Fat Controller's Card Offer, Marvel Comics Ltd., 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

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.....

**Postcode** ..... **Age** .....

THOMAS TOKEN

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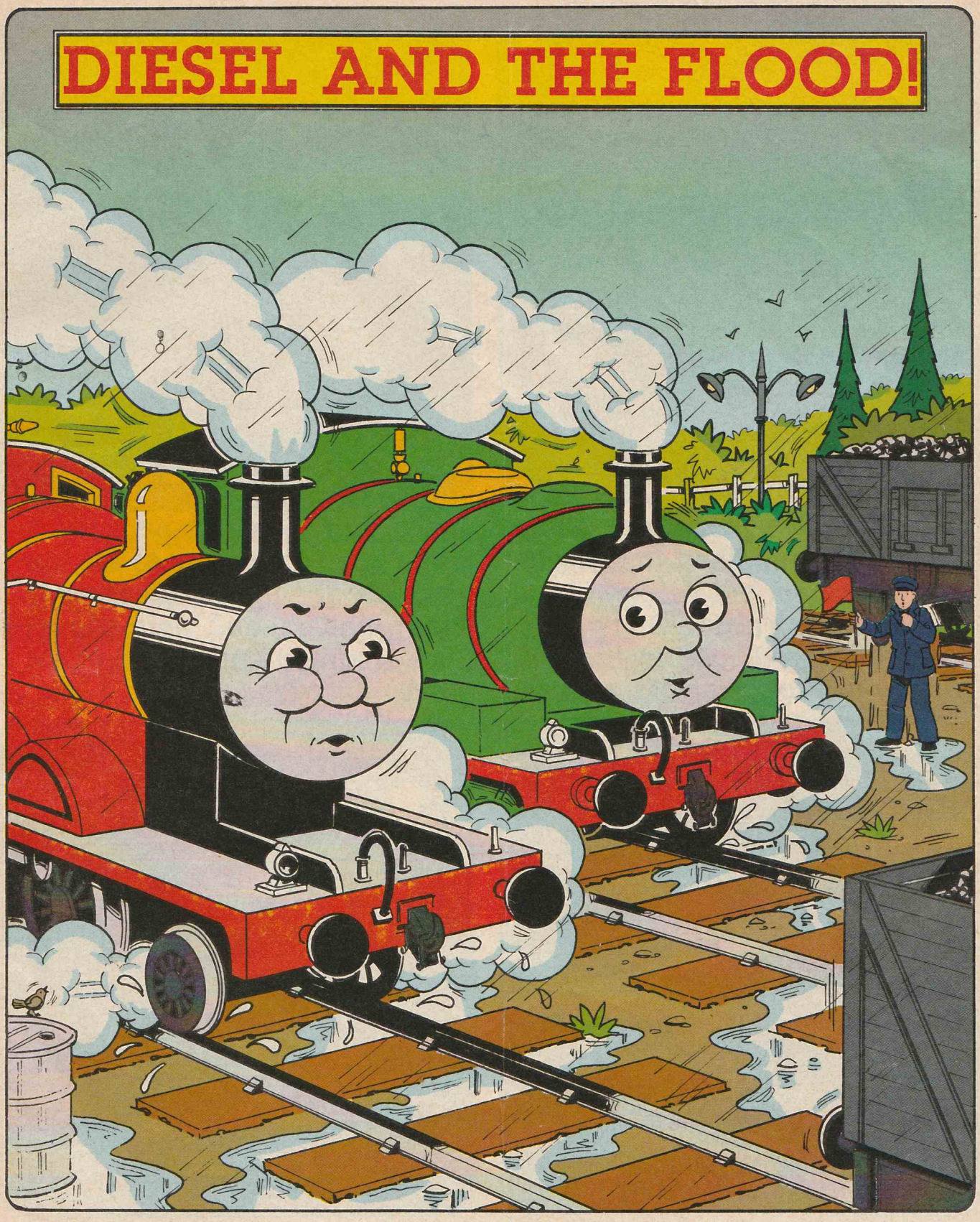
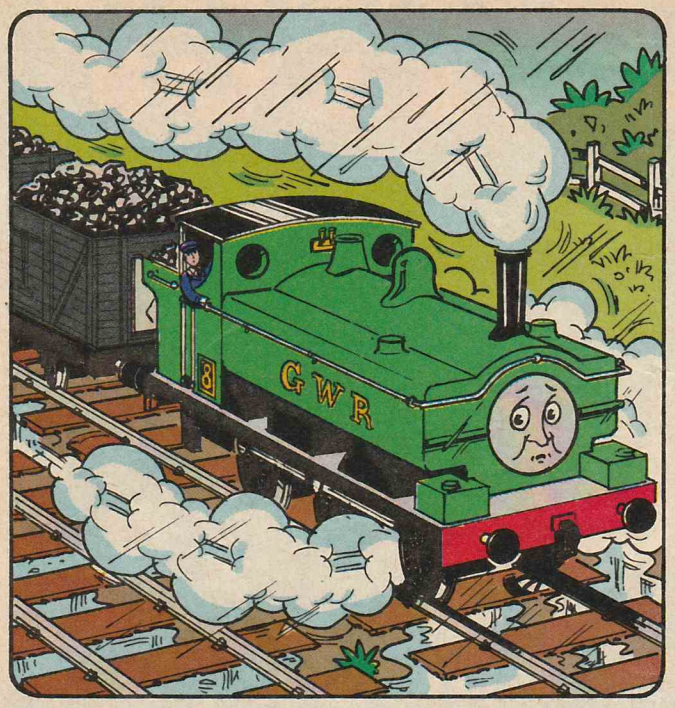
# DIESEL AND THE FLOOD!

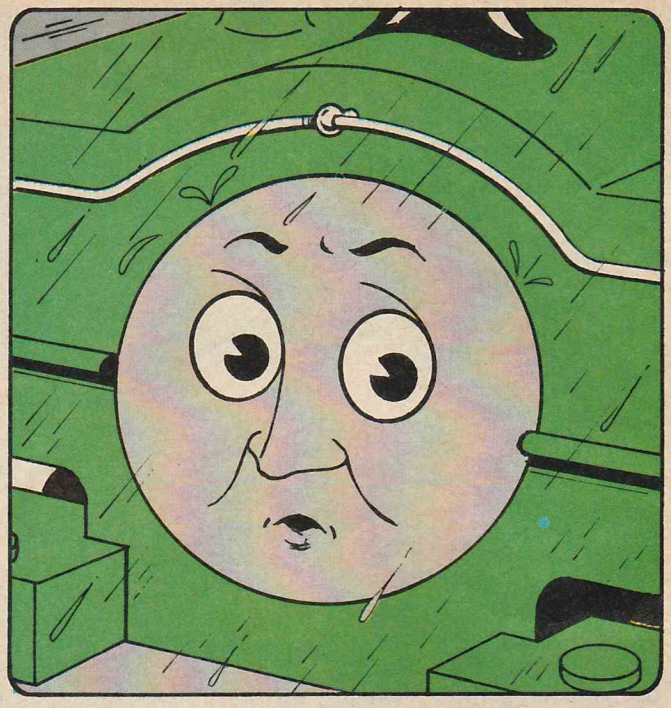


1. It had been raining heavily all week on the Island of Sodor. The engines were soaked as they puffed up and down the lines. Raindrops splashed over their wheels and down their funnels.

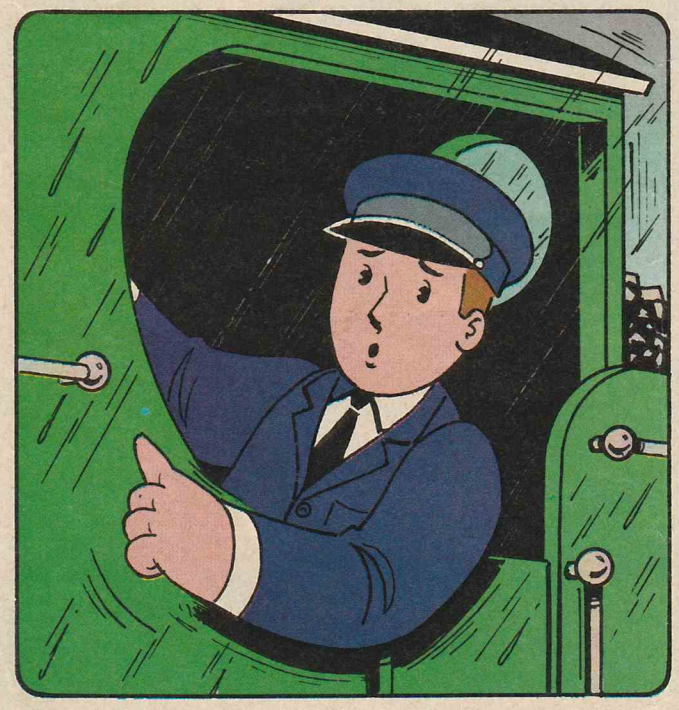
2. "I'm soaked!" James grumbled, in the yard. "The rain dulls my shiny, red paintwork. When it stops. I'll need a good polish!" "And I'll need oiling!" moaned Percy, whose brakes squealed.



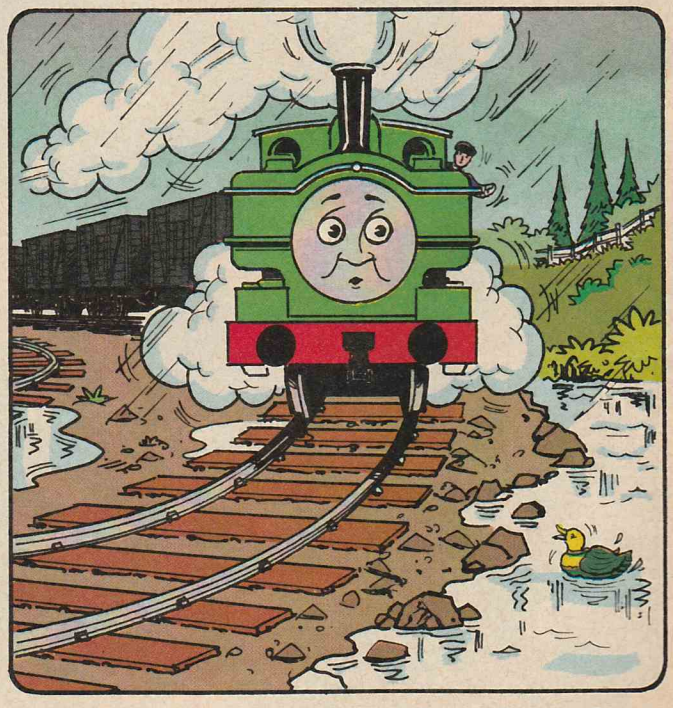

3. All the engines were feeling miserable. They liked to work in fine weather, not drippy rain. One wet morning, Duck was returning to the Main Station yard with a long line of trucks.



4. The rain blew into his eyes. It made it hard for Duck to see the track just ahead. The trucks were filled with coal and were heavy. Duck steamed carefully on past a river, near the line.

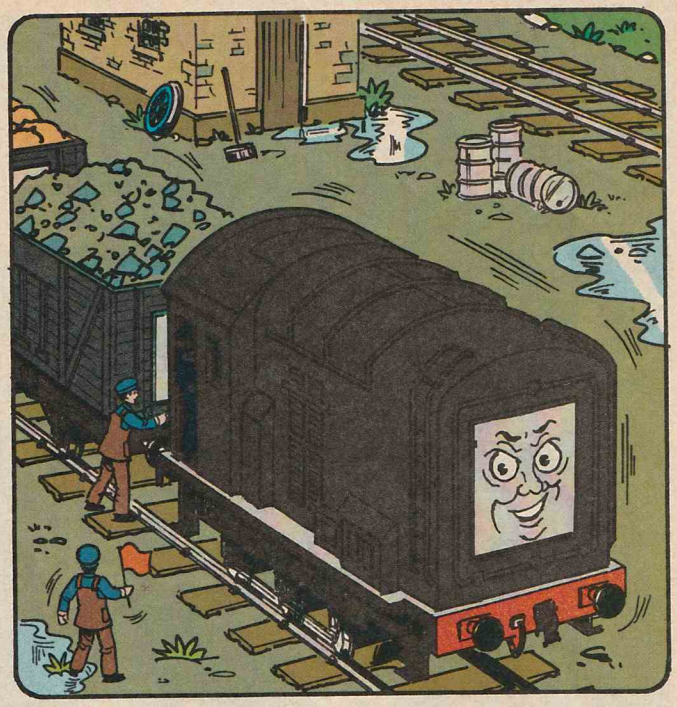


5. All the rain had caused the river to rise much higher than usual and burst its banks. The flood water seeped towards a section of the track. "Go slowly!" called Duck's driver.

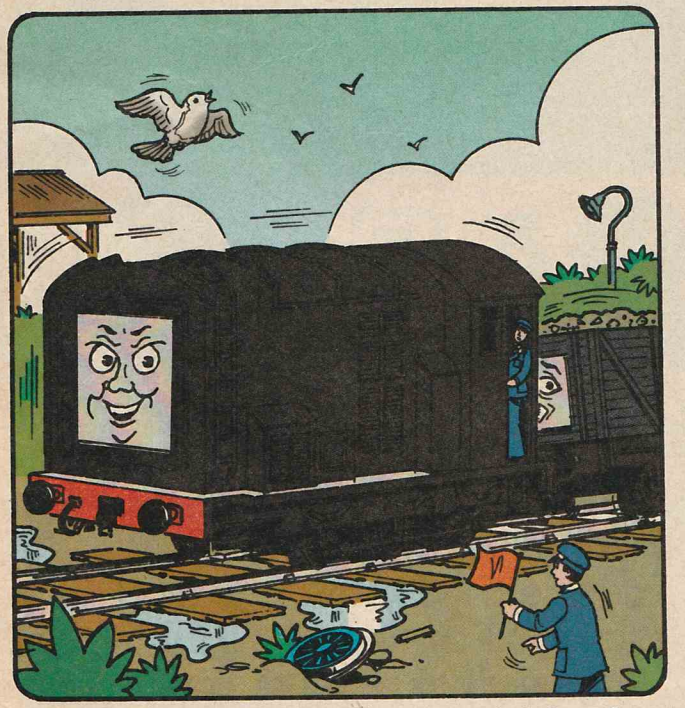


6. Duck felt the line bend under his wheels. "The water has loosened the ground under the track!" said Duck. The rails moved up and down while Duck went over them. He was worried.

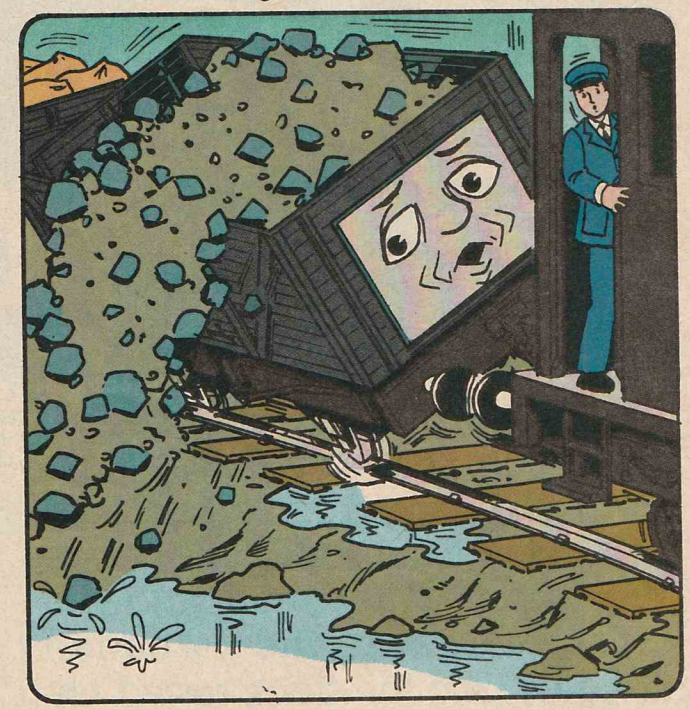
7. Later, at the Main Station, Duck's driver told the Fat Controller about the loose earth. "I'll send some engineers to put sandbags beside the track to keep the water back!" he said.



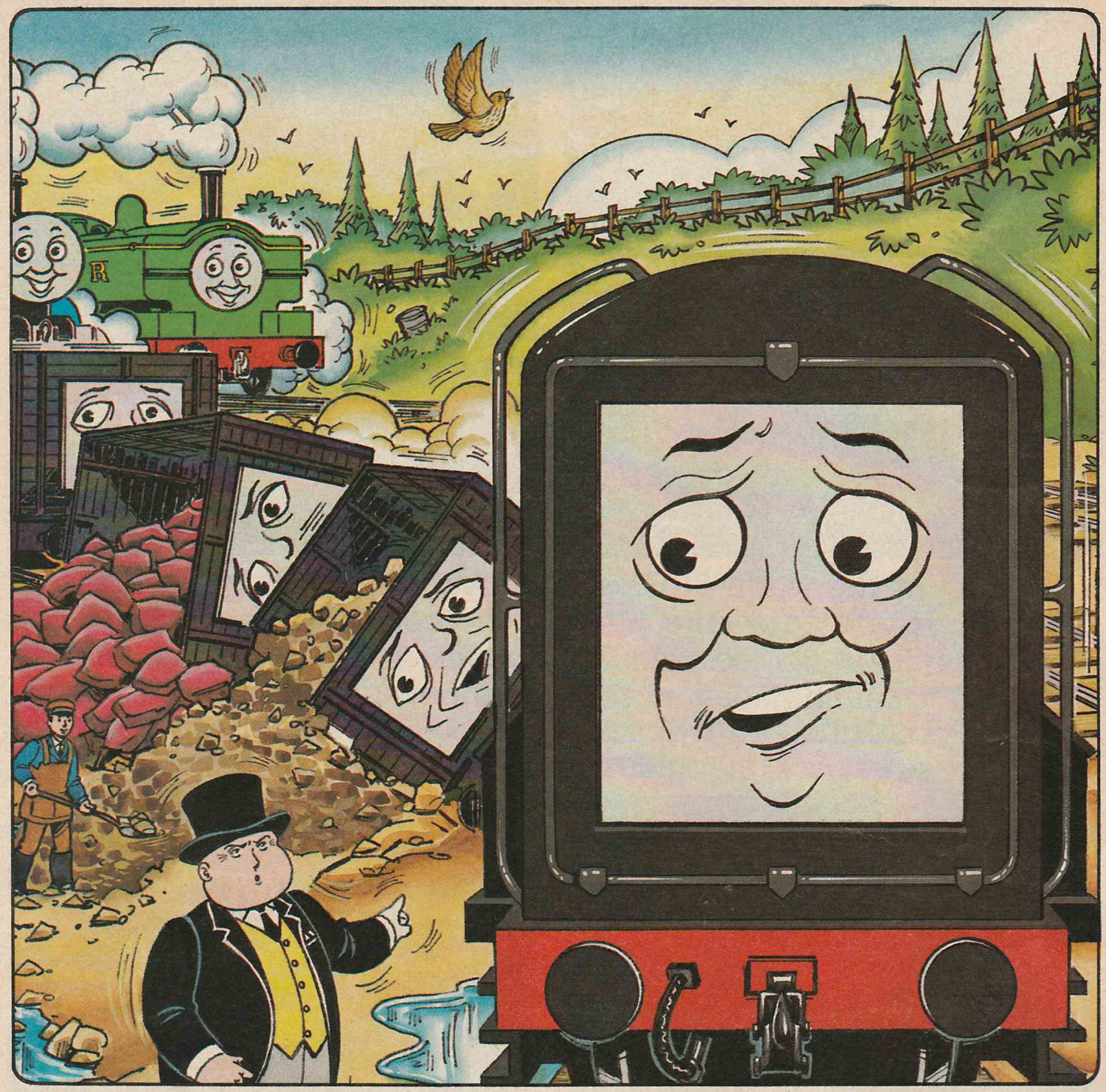
8. At last, it stopped raining. Duck took the engineers to repair the line and make it safe for the engines again. Diesel was coupled to some trucks filled with sandbags and stones.



9. Diesel raced off so quickly, he made the trucks clatter and bump about. "Not so fast! Not so fast!" they cried. "Stop complaining!" said Diesel in his oily voice." This is an emergency!"



10. Duck arrived by the river. The engineers climbed down and waited for Diesel.He came racing on to the loose track. Suddenly, some trucks tipped up spilling the sandbags.



11. "That was your fault, Diesel!" said Duck. "It was careless to go so fast!" Some engineers worked hard to put the sandbags beside the track. Other men laid the stones under the wooden sleepers that the track rested on. Thomas arrived with the Fat Controller in Annie, to inspect the work. He was surprised that the task had been finished. "Well done, everyone!" he said.

12. "It's all thanks to me going so quickly!" Diesel boasted to Duck. The Fat Controller was cross when he heard about the accident with the trucks. "It did save us unloading them!" an engineer said. "There could have been a serious accident!" the Fat Controller warned Diesel. Though Diesel looked very unhappy, he did agree with the Fat Controller.

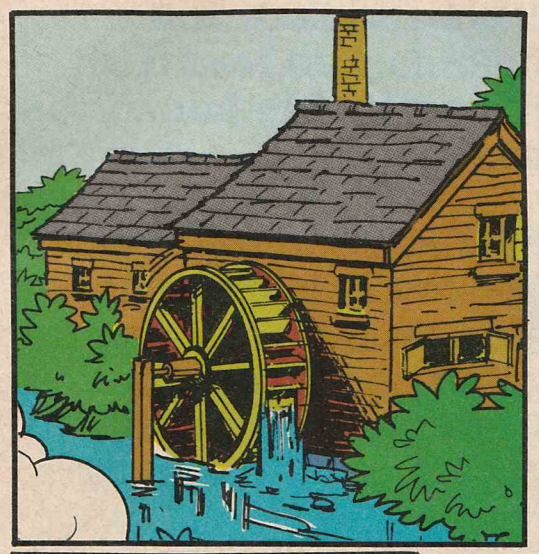
**THE END!**



**In our next issue: The wedding engine!**

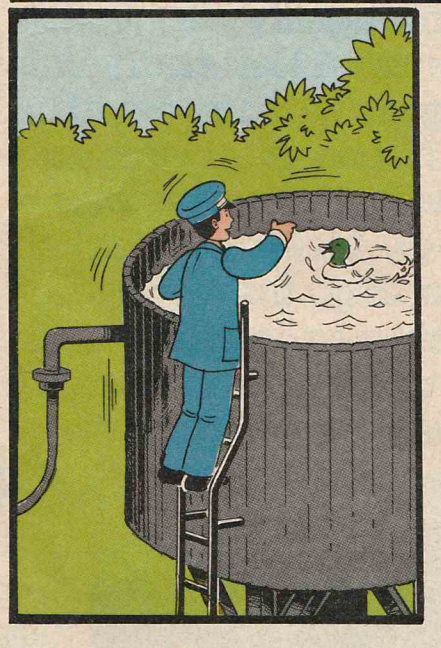
# PUZZLE TIME!

In our story, flood water didn't help Diesel at all! In the pictures below, we have shown three different ways in which water can be used on the Island of Sodor! Fill out their descriptive names in the dots provided then you can read more about their uses!



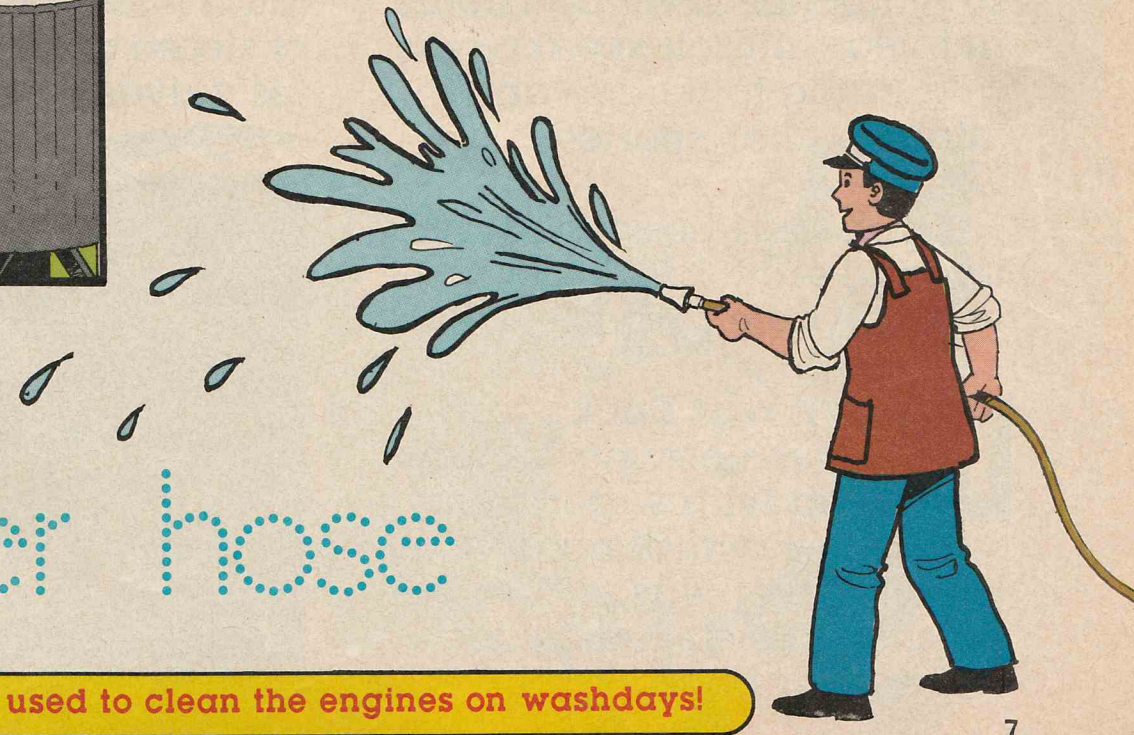
Water Wheel

A Water-wheel can be used to grind wheat and produce corn!



Water tower

A water tower is used to refill the engine's boilers!



Water hose

A Water-Hose is used to clean the engines on washdays!

# WHEN TO WHISTLE!

It was a busy morning in the Main Station yard. Thomas was shunting trucks when he heard Percy 'Peep! Peep!' behind him.

"Pip-peep!" whistled Percy loudly.
Thomas was startled.

"Puffing pistons!" he gasped. "I didn't see you there!"

Percy laughed and went to fetch some coaches for Gordon and Henry. While the two engines waited, Gordon boasted about being the biggest and strongest engine on the Fat Controller's railway.

"Pip-pip-peep!" Percy whistled cheekily. He made so much noise, Gordon could not hear himself speak!

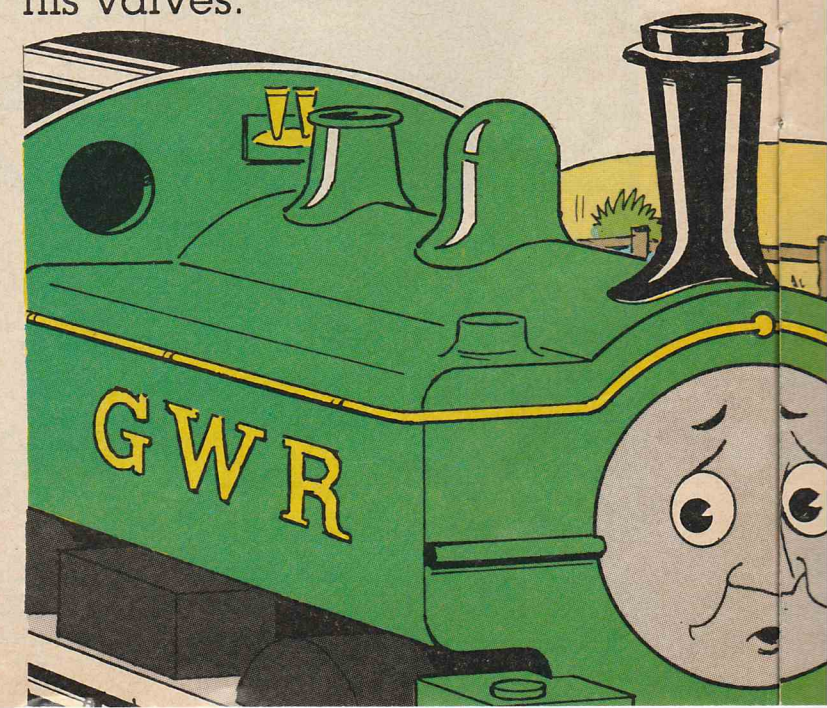
"It's rude to whistle and interrupt me!" snorted Gordon.

"Don't be a bossy-buffers!" teased Percy. "I like to whistle while I work!"

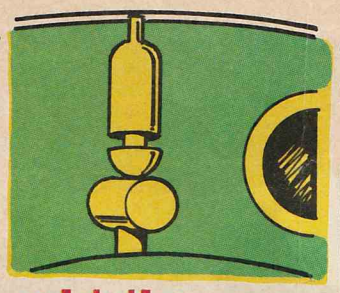
Now it was Duck's turn. He was having his tank filled with water. Percy raced past, whistling at him. Duck's driver was so surprised he spilled cold water over Duck.

Next, Percy pip-peeped the Scottish twins, Donald and Douglas, who were in the Maintenance Shed having their wheels oiled. The engineer looked round at Percy and squirted oil in Donald's face!

The Fat Controller sent Percy to fetch some trucks from a siding. The other engines were cross with Percy for teasing them. They were glad to see him go.
He puffed eagerly along the main line until he reached the siding. It was not used very often and the bank on either side of the track was overgrown. As Percy backed into the siding, there was a loud, hissing sound. A cloud of steam gushed from one of his valves.



"You've sprung a leak!" said Percy's driver. Just then, Duck came rolling along the main line with a goods train. Percy whistled at him to help but Duck chuffed on. He did not know Percy was in trouble. He thought Percy was teasing again.



whistle

Soon Gordon thundered past, pulling the Express. Percy whistled as loudly as he could.

"Pheeeep!" called Gordon, racing by. "I can whistle louder!" Percy was losing more and more steam. He huffed and puffed, straining to move but he could not get up enough steam. Other engines hurried along the main line. Percy whistled and whistled until he was puffed out! No one would stop. Percy was worried.

"Sizzling steam-valves!" he cried. "I might be stuck here for days!"

His driver climbed down from the cab and set off, across country, to find a telephone and ring the Fat Controller. Percy was left all by himself in the siding. He wished he was back in the busy yard with the other engines for company. The siding was full of strange shadows. Percy was lonely.

At last, his driver returned and Duck arrived to pull Percy back to the Main Station. Percy was very pleased to see Duck. When the other engines heard what had happened, they were sorry for not stopping.

"It's your own fault for teasing us, Percy!" said Duck. "You should only whistle when you need to!" Percy agreed.

**THE END!**

# Past the sle

Which engine can you see?
What colour is he?
Look at the signal!
Is it pointing upwards or downwards?

How many sle
How many pe
Can you see th
Point to the wi

# edge race!

sledges can you count?
people are wearing skis?
ee the snowman?
e windmill!

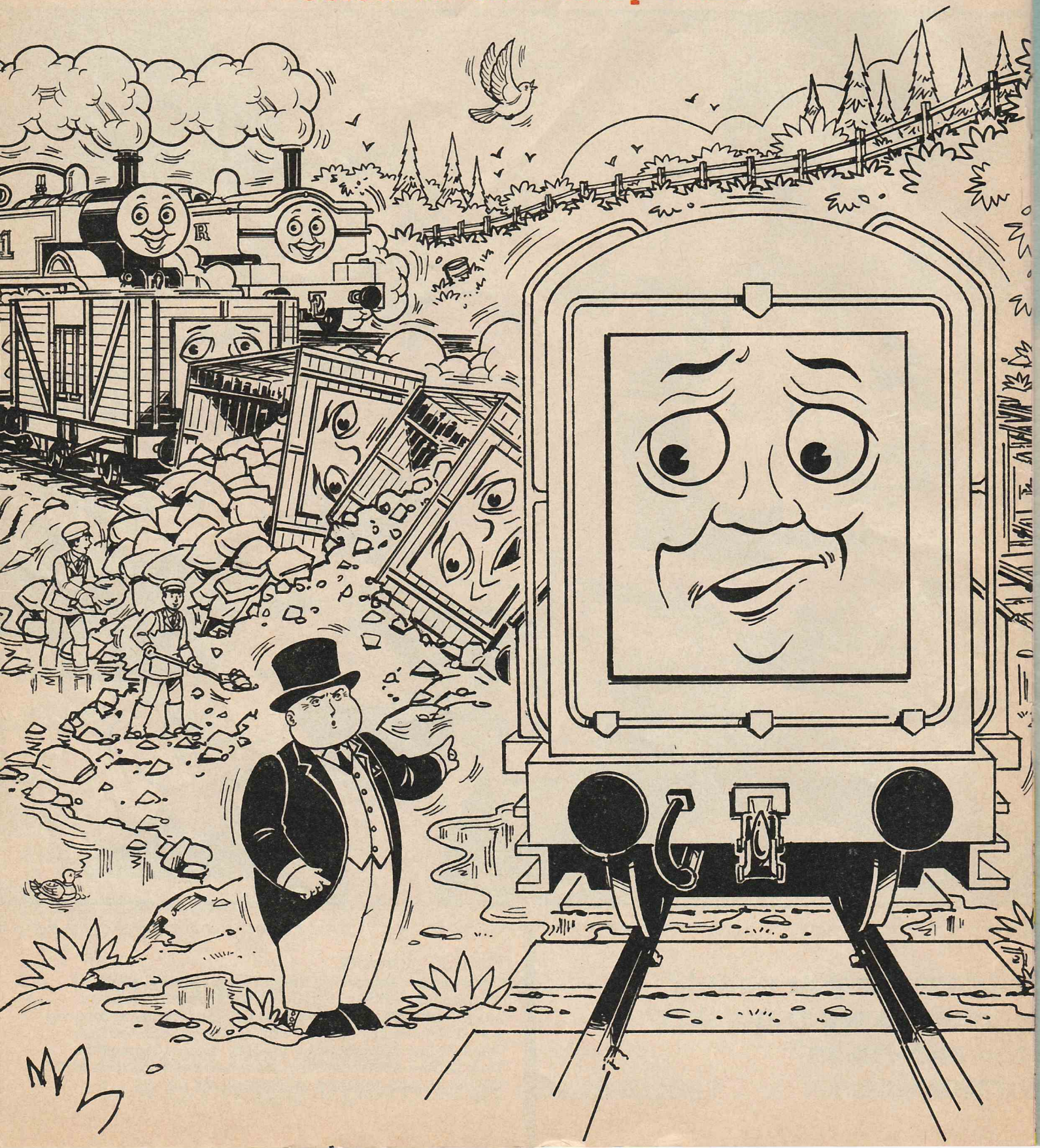
**Note to parents**

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centerspread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

**In our next issue: Feeding the birds!**

# COLOURING TIME!

**What has happened? Can you guess?**
**Colour in this watery mess!**

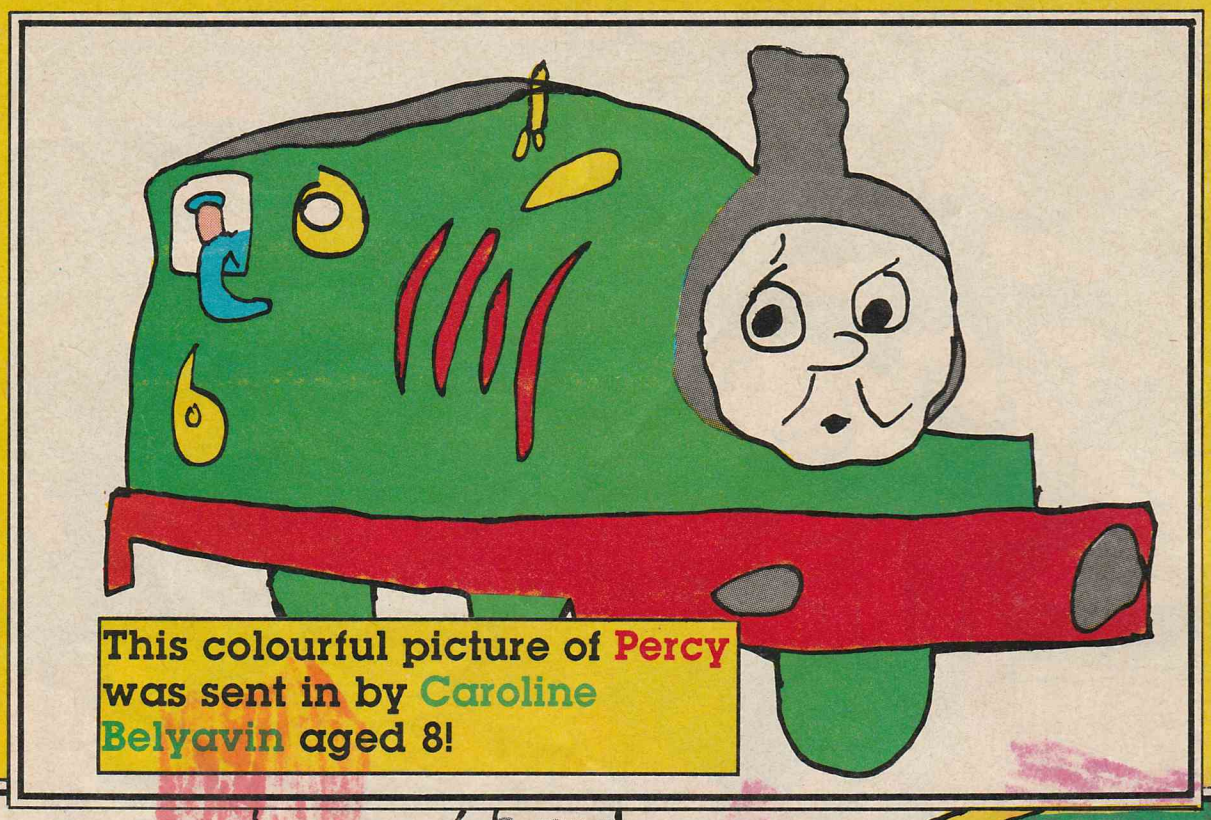


# JOIN THE DOTS!

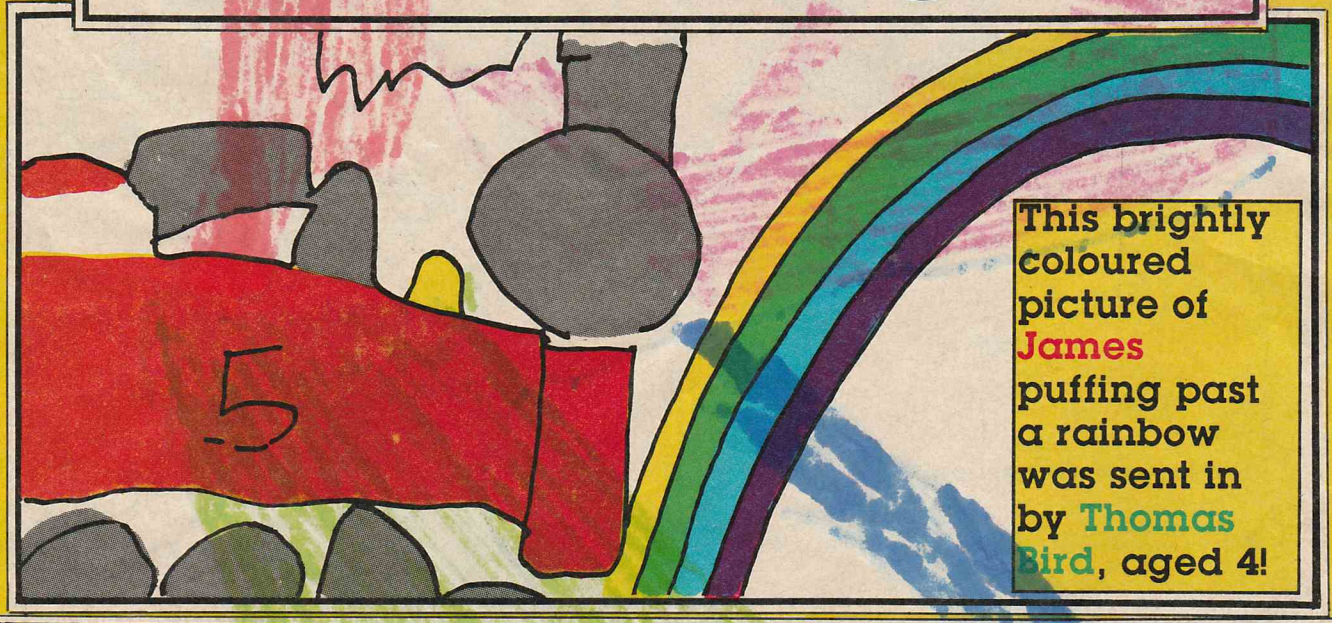
**What are the children doing in the snow? Join the dots and then you'll know!**

# THE FAT CONTROLLER'S PICTURE PAGE!

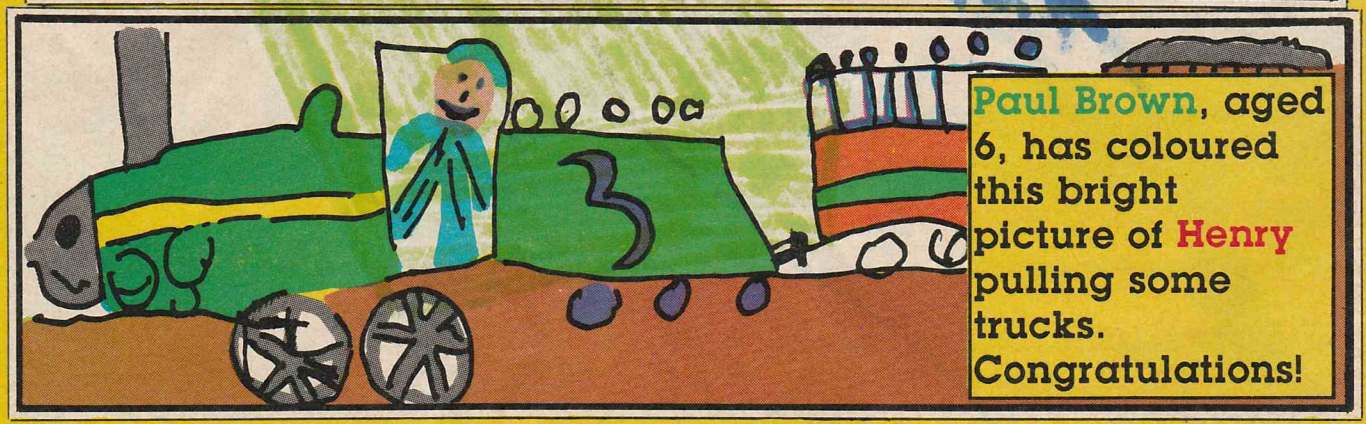
Welcome to our pictures page, featuring James, Henry and Percy!



This colourful picture of Percy was sent in by Caroline Belyavin aged 8!



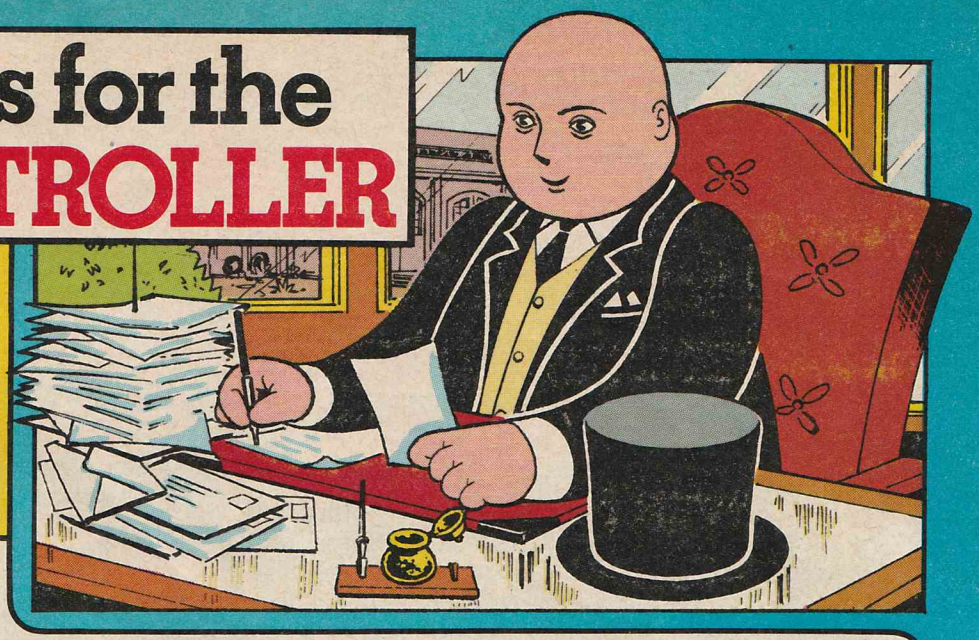
This brightly coloured picture of James puffing past a rainbow was sent in by Thomas Bird, aged 4!



Paul Brown, aged 6, has coloured this bright picture of Henry pulling some trucks. Congratulations!

Thank you all for sending in your pictures! We are sorry that we can only print a few! If you would like to draw a picture and have a chance of seeing it printed in a future issue, please send it to: The Fat Controller (Picture Page), the Island of Sodor, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2 3DX.

# Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER



**Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!**

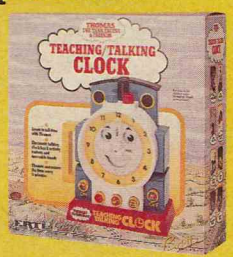
## STAR LETTER!

**Dear Fat Controller,**
Please could you tell me who is your favourite engine? My favourite engine is Thomas because he is kind and helps other engines and he is also blue!

Love from **Matthew Cannon**, aged 4!

*I do agree! Thomas is one of my most helpful and kind engines but I do have to allocate equal time to each engine so that they are all efficient and hard working!*

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win this splendid **Thomas Teaching Talking Clock** courtesy of *ERTL (UK) Ltd.*




## GREAT STORIES!

**Dear Fat Controller,**
My Mummy has just read me the story about **"The Flying Thistle"** which looks like my Great Grandfather's engine **"The Flying Scotsman 4472"**. He was the first man to drive **"The Flying Scotsman"** out of the Gateshead Sheds and he also drove the **"King George V"** and **"Queen Mary"** engines from London to Edinburgh!

Love from **James. K. Levey**, aged 3!

*My! My! Your Great Grandfather does sound as though he was a very fine engine driver indeed. He was certainly very privileged to have driven so many fine engines!*

## WHEN TO WHISTLE!

**Dear Fat Controller,**
Do you have to make sure that the engines don't whistle to frighten people!

Love from **Matthew Green**, aged 4!

*Yes Matthew! Most of my engines will whistle from a far distance to let people know that they are approaching!*

## BIRTHDAYS!

**Mark Ross Alexander, Richard Attwell, Andrew Chapman (31644), Richard Jackson (35821), Nathan Stephens, Rikki Winchester, Andrew Grennell, stuart Beale, Christopher Bird (37663), Mark Burch, David Daniel, Jimmy Canning (38318).**

If you would like a birthday mention printed in one of our future issues, please send details on a postcard at least nine weeks in advance!

**Yours**
Sir Topham Hatt
**The Fat Controller!**

## Send your letters to:

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**The Island of Sodor**
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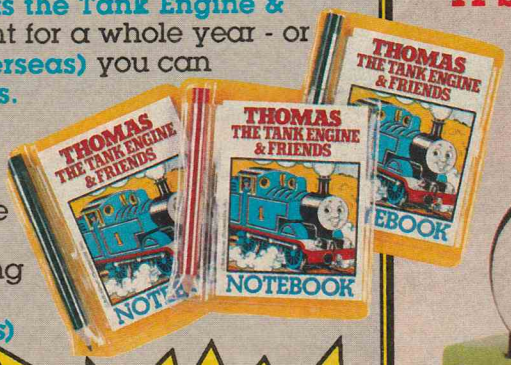


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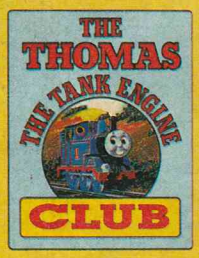


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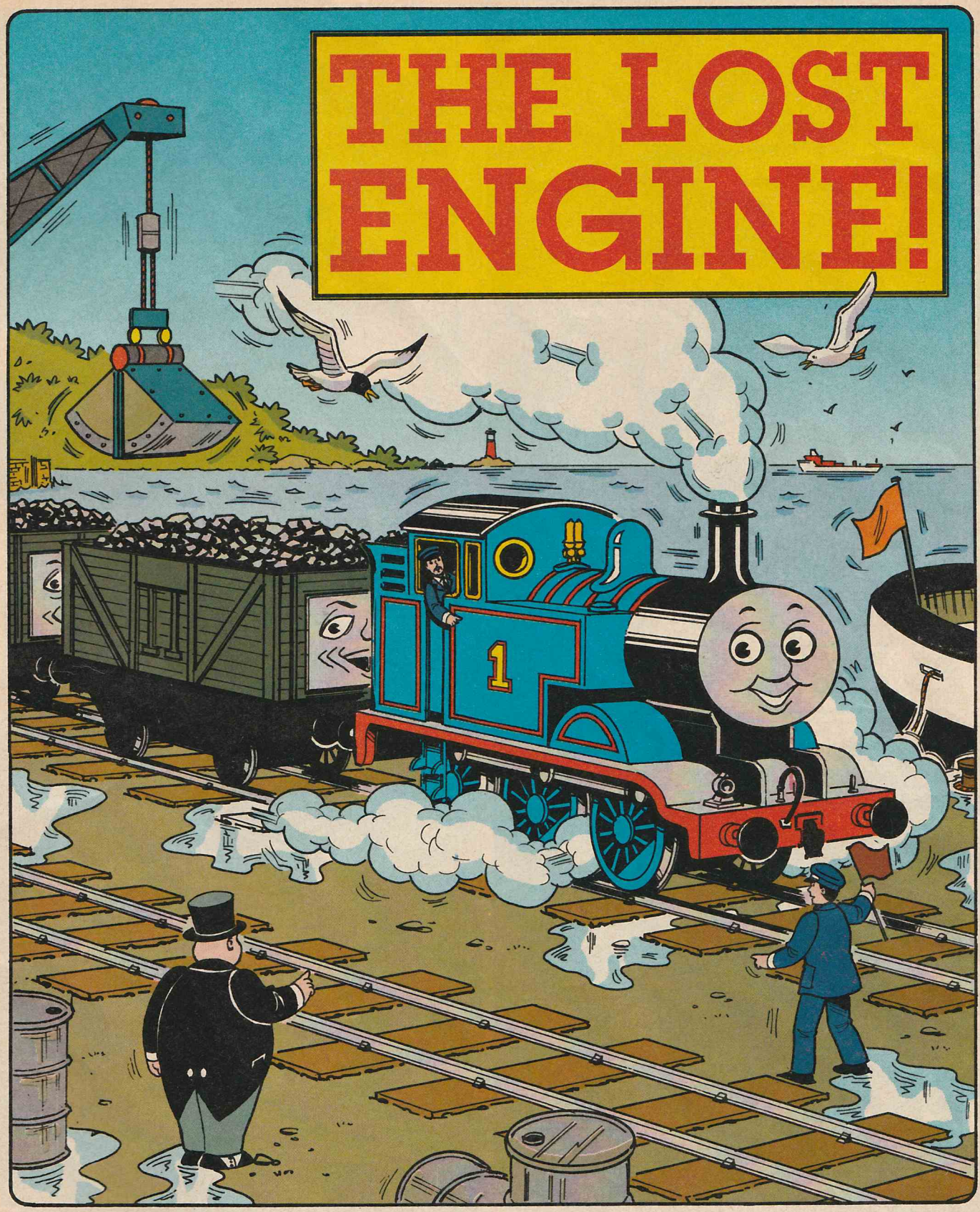
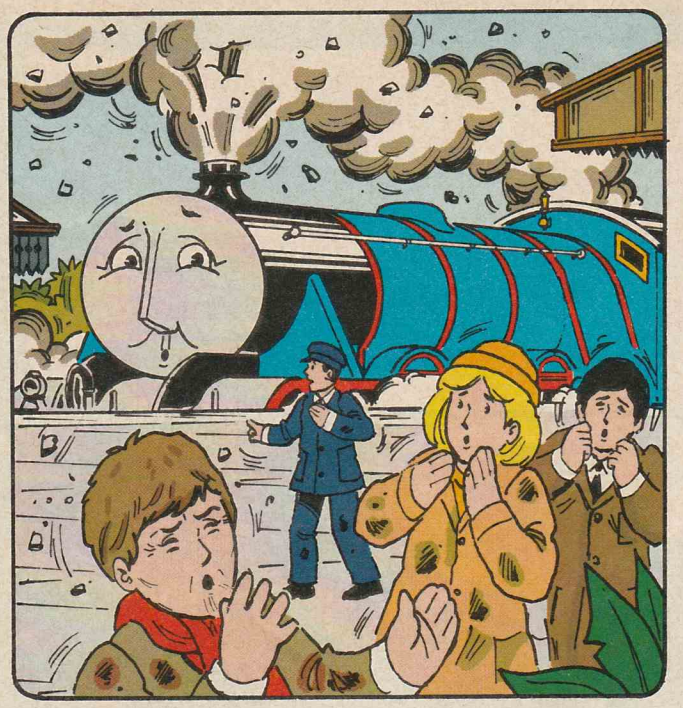
# THE LOST ENGINE!

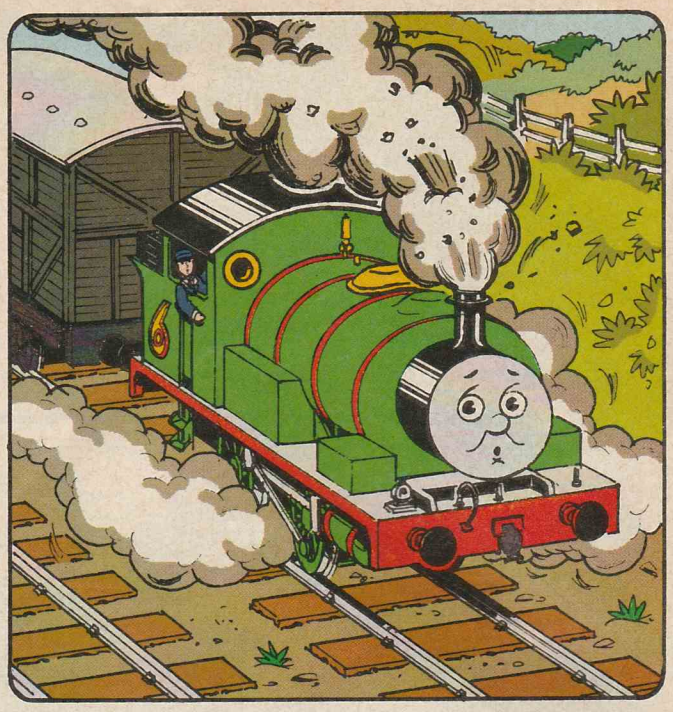



1. The Fat Controller always buys best-quality, clean coal for his steam engines to burn. One day, Thomas was at the Big Harbour to collect a shipment of coal sent from the mainland.

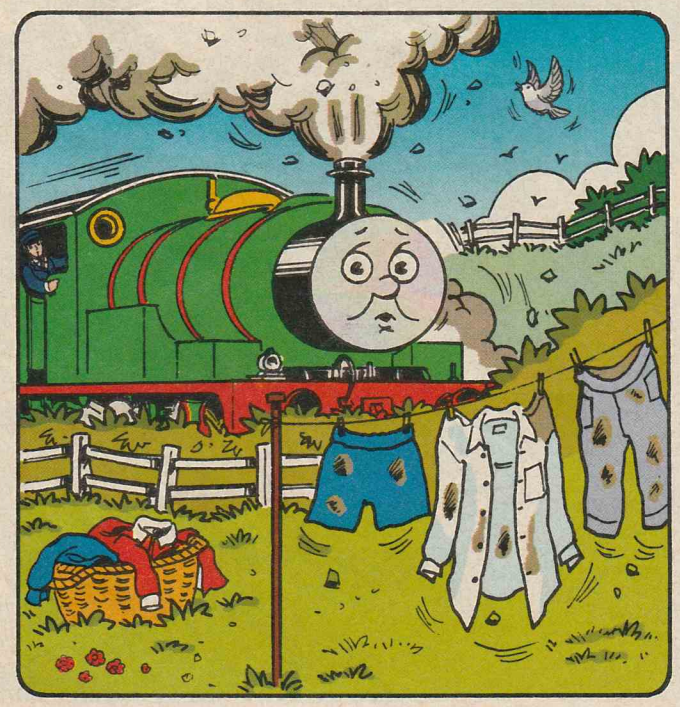
2. Thomas took the coal back to the Main Station. Stocks in the yard were very low because bad weather had stopped the coal ship sailing. The new load arrived just in time.



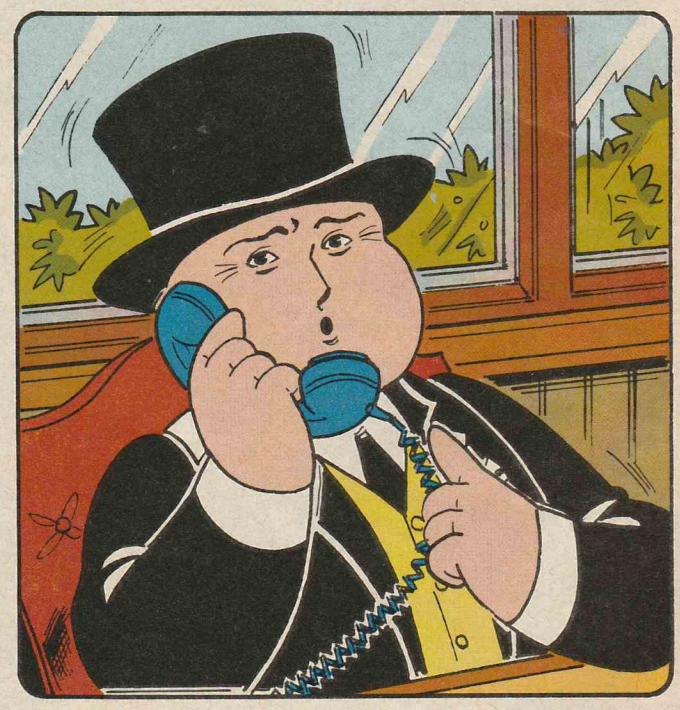
3. Gordon was the first to use the new coal. He began to blow out dark, sooty smoke. It landed on passengers waiting for him at the platform. It made them cough and soiled their clothes.



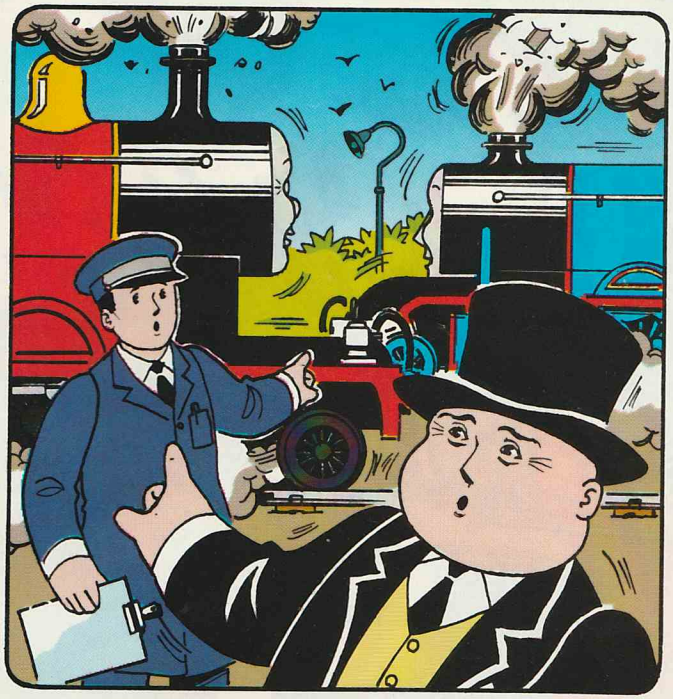
4. The passengers complained to the Fat Controller. He was very sorry and told them he would have their clothes cleaned. Later, Percy burned the new coal while he pulled a goods train.



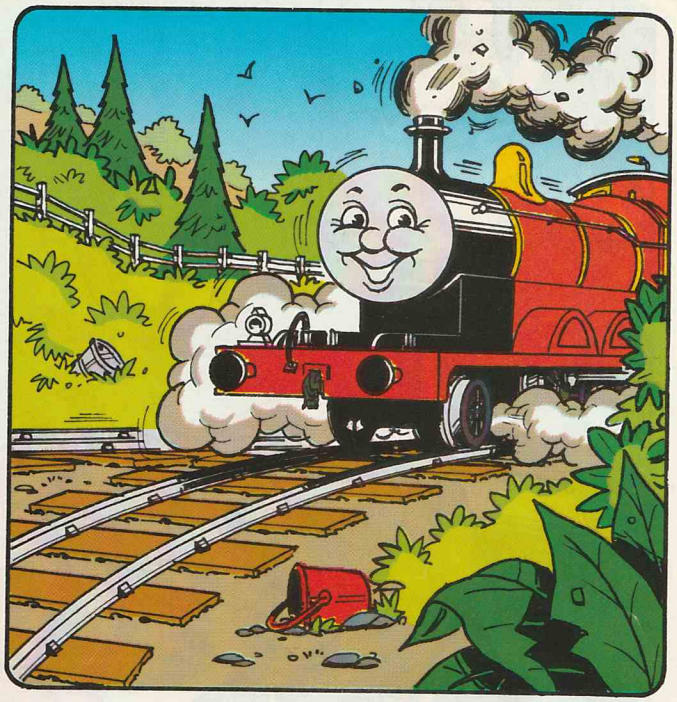
5. "There is too much dirty smoke blowing from your funnel, Percy!" said Percy's driver. As he passed a house near the line, his sooty smoke landed on some washing in the garden.



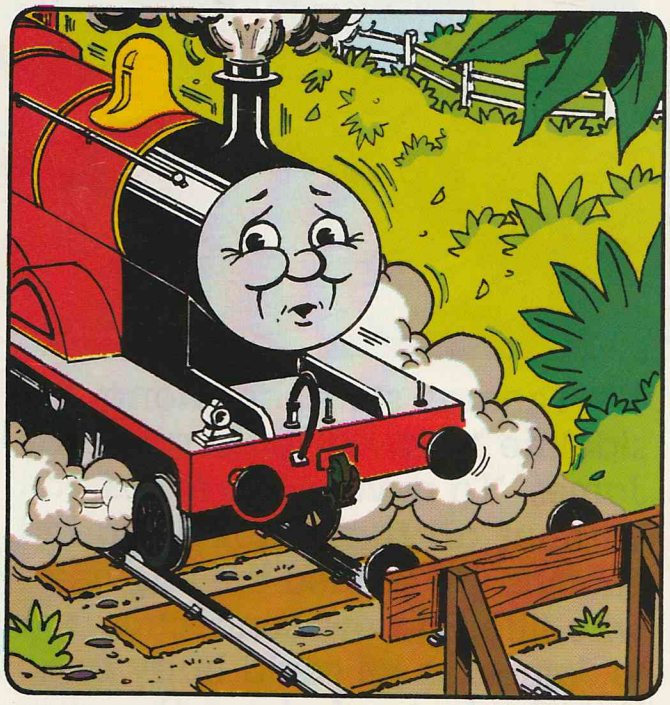
6. The Fat Controller had lots of complaints about his engines puffing dirty smoke. He rang the coal-yard on the mainland. "The wrong coal has been shipped by mistake!" said the Fat Controller.



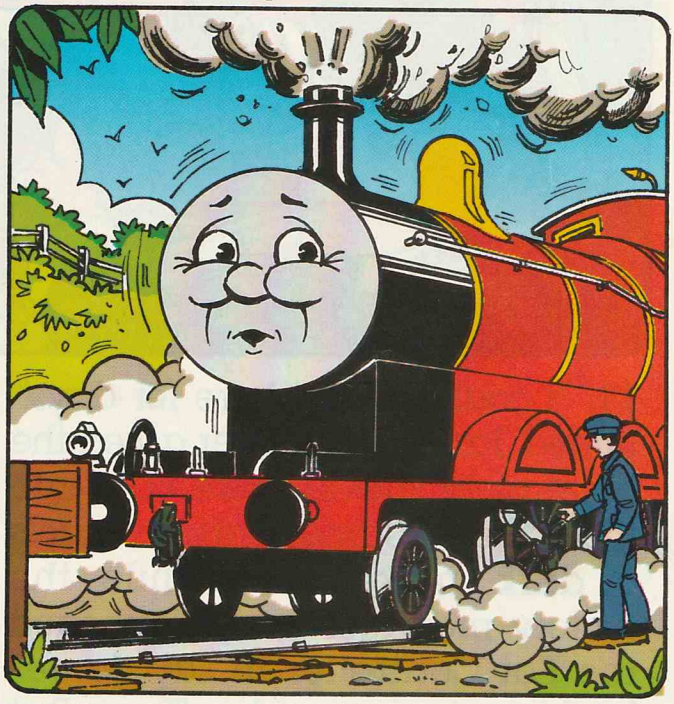
7. The Fat Controller ordered some clean coal immediately. "My engines are too busy to stop working," he said. "They must use the wrong coal until the new supply comes this afternoon."



8. James was sent to fetch some goods from a timber factory. His funnel blew out clouds of thick smoke. At a junction, James puffed on to a siding while the line was being mended.



9. He raced along the sideline until the track came to a dead-end. James stopped at some buffers. "I'm lost!" he gasped. As he began to back up, there was a noise from his wheels.



10. James's driver climbed down from his cab to see what had caused the sound. "Oh, dear! One of your connecting rods has broken, he told James. "You can't move until it is fixed!"

11. "I could be lost here for days!" fumed James. His driver asked the fireman to shovel more coal into the boiler so James puffed out lots of dark smoke. Meanwhile, the factory manager had telephoned the Fat Controller to say James had not arrived. The Fat Controller sent Thomas to look for James. As Thomas neared the junction, he saw puffs of smoke rising in the distance.

12. Thomas steamed along the sideline to investigate and saw James. "I'd never have found you without all that smoke!" called Thomas. He fetched the engineers who fitted a new connecting rod to James, so he could hurry on to the factory. Later, the Fat Controller sent Thomas to fetch the new coal from the harbour. "Even dirty smoke can be really useful sometimes!" said Thomas.

**THE END!**



**In our next issue: Thomas and the Toboggan!**